

# Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

President: Bob Comack N5TRP  
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Treasurer: Mac McCarty N9PK

WB9YIG/R  
146.835

## The Spark Gap

October 1992

### RESULTS OF SEPTEMBER TESTING

Lajos Bathory	Columbus	NC Tech
David Caslan	Columbus	Tech
Daniel Evans	Austin	NC Tech
David Reneau	Indianapolis	Tech
Ralph Talbott	Indianapolis	General

### THANKS

Joe, KA9ZPA, wants to thank the following hams for standing-by during the recent tornado in Nineveh in case there had been a call for a weather net:

N9PUA	WB5VZT	WB9AYB	KB9BGV	KA9KAI
N9AZD	W9FQK	N9OLG	K9VQI	NT9J
W9MLN	KB9HPQ			

Other hams were also monitoring, ready to respond if needed.

### THE BIG MOVE

On October 2nd the Big Move got underway at the channel 4 tower site. At 8 AM the tower crew which consisted of a father and two sons began hoisting the hard-line up to the 450 foot level. The side-mount was then partially assembled on the ground and was raised in two sections. The mount was then secured to the northwest leg of the tower and stabilized against horizontal sway. The two crewmen climbed out onto the side-mount and installed the fibreglass antenna. Then the top of the antenna was held in place by an insulated boom to keep it from swaying in the wind.

Of course the next step was to move the equipment from Whiteland to the site.

With only a 2 hour shutdown of the repeater, we were back on the air with our new tower. Reports began coming in from different parts of central Indiana which seemed to give a favorable reaction to the new tower height. The duplexers will have to be adjusted after the move before a very reliable assessment can be made. Plans for making these adjustments are being made now and should be completed by the time this newsletter arrives.

We will be sharing the phone line for the autopatch with N9FUT who has a 220 repeater on the same tower. At present we have some adjustments to make on the phone duplexing system to avoid problems that are created when someone is using the patch on one repeater while someone on the other repeater tries to use it. There will probably be other adjustments to be made as problems arise in the next couple of weeks.

### AMERICA 500 VOYAGE

Ralph, KB9HRV has already left for Spain to begin the voyage of a group of small boats to San Salvadore, repeating the trip by Columbus 500 years ago. Jack, NT9J and Eric KB9BGS will leave to join Ralph about the 6th of October. Since many of our club members will want to make radio contact with them during their crossing, a complete schedule of frequencies and times will appear on page 2 of this newsletter. We are all looking forward to making a contact with this unique adventure!

MADISON COUNTY ARC  
East Elementary School, Pendleton, IN.

Boat Name: TIEVOLI

Amateur Radio Operators on Board:

KB9HRV/AG Ralph Talbott, General Class  
NT9J Jack Parker, Extra Class (Privileges in Spain)  
KB9BGS Eric Sluder, ~~Extra~~ Class  
~~ABV~~

The first contact attempt will be made on 10/08/92,  
using the following schedule:

2100 UTC 14.300 Mega Hertz for initial contact  
2130 UTC 7.258 Mega Hertz for secondary contact  
2145 UTC 21.390 Mega Hertz for alternate contacts

The contact attempts will be made each night using  
this same schedule. TIEVOLI, and her crew, will be at the  
dock in Spain until 10/12/92. Contact with the crew may  
not be possible due to crew commitments in Spain. While  
in Spain, Jack Parker, NT9J is the only crew member on  
board with amateur privileges in that Country.

TIEVOLI and the America 500 fleet are scheduled to be  
in the Canary Islands on or about 10/25/92. The scheduled  
departure is tentatively set sometime between  
11/15th-18th, at which time the only amateur on board will  
be Ralph Talbott, KB9HRV/AG Captain of the boat. The  
voyage is scheduled to continue until mid to late  
December, when the fleet will arrive at their destination,  
San Salvador.

Upon contact with the ship, the following information  
should be compiled:

1. Health & welfare of crew
2. Weather
  - a) height of sea
  - b) wind Speed
  - c) ambient temperature
  - d) atmospheric condition (rain, cloudy, clear, etc)
3. Fleet location
  - a) longitude
  - b) latitude
4. Other information (The crew may want the  
contact person to pass messages to friends  
& family in Indiana. Phone patches may be  
requested).

10/92

After contact has been terminated, the contact controller should pass this information on to one of the 3 project coordinators, as follows:

1. KA9CCF Art Franks 643-5207
2. N9MVJ Tim Ramey 778-4222
3. KB9DXO Doug Townsend 644-0747

They will then contact East Elementary School.

Arrangements have been made to provide a temporary amateur station at the East Elementary on the evening of 10/16/92, from 1600 to approximately 2100 local time. This date and time will coincide with the parents club carnival.

Further, station operation during regular school hours are possible during the week of 10/19/92. Future operations are possible at the school after the fleet leaves the Canary Islands. This operation will depend on propagation and the success of the project at that time. Calling frequencies and times are subject to change in order to take advantage of best propagation conditions.